## RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

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Colonel Brendan P. Doherty Chief Anthony J. Silva

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director

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**Academy** 

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training Special Meeting Minutes

**January 19, 2011** 

## I. Welcome & Roll Call

Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the special meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) held at CCRI, Lincoln Campus, at 10:20 a.m. on January 19, 2011.

Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call of the Commission members. Members present are: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, Corporal Derek Borek and Mr. Robert Driscoll. Chief Pesare noted for the record that he has a letter from Colonel Doherty appointing Corporal Borek as his designee for today's meeting. Also, Colonel McCartney asked Chief Pesare to Chair the meeting in his absence as he has excused himself from the meeting

because he was Detective Branch's Commander officer.

Also present were: Lisa Holley, Richard Woolley, Chief Anthony Silva, Capt. David Ricciarelli, Chief Thomas Coyle, (ret)Det. Steve Branch and Donna Lavallee.

II. Request (letter) by Chief Thomas Coyle, East Greenwich Police Department, for a waiver of the "Three year rule". (open session requested).

Chief Pesare read a letter from East Greenwich Police Chief Thomas Coyle requesting a waiver of the three-year-rule to continue POST certification of Ret. Det. Steven Branch. Chief Pesare asked Director Silva to address this request.

Director Silva stated that Detective Branch submitted a letter, resume and extensive packet containing evidence of employment at various companies during his break in service from the Warwick Police Department. Also submitted were certificates of training attended by Det. Branch during the break in service. Det. Branch retired from the Warwick Police Department in October of 2006.

Since he retired he served approximately 18 months as an investigator with the Rhode Island Ethics Commission. In January of 2009 he joined DynCorp International as a Police Advisor and served in Afghanistan on a one-year contract as a police mentor and advisor.

During this time he served with the US Army Police Mentor Team and advised the Afghan district chiefs, (Colonels and Generals) on police operating procedures. Det. Branch has continued his membership and is an instructor with the RI Tactical Officers

Association which has allowed him to stay current on police tactical practices and techniques.

In addition, he attended and has been certified in a number of law enforcement based continuing education programs, such as THE TACTICAL TRAINING PROGRAM, KABUL AFGHANISTON 2009-1010, the DYNCORP INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE, CAMP GIBSON, KABUL, AFGHANISTON, 2009, INTERNATIONAL POLICE PROGRAMS—POLICE ASSESSMENT, SELECTION & TRAINING PROGRAM FOR AGHANISTON, 2009...

Based on his work and training experience, the staff recommends that Det. Branch possesses work experience, training and education during his break in service and that this work and training experience provides assurance of current proficiency under guidelines as established by the POST.

Should the POST approve, we would have recommendations for documented training he would have to attend.

Chief Coyle added that he was looking to certify Det. Branch as a Police Officer to join the East Greenwich Police Department as a patrol officer. He has put together a list of abbreviated training (at a minimum) that Detective Branch would be required to attend: Domestic Violence; SFST/Breathalyzer; Firearms; as well as undergoing an FTO program. Also, training for Search & Seizure under the 4th amendment.

Chief Pesare commented that Detective Branch's credentials are

outstanding. Detective Branch then thanked the Commission for considering his request.

Chief Pesare asked if there any additional discussion. Hearing none, he asked for a motion granting a waiver to Detective Steven Branch under Subsection "D" under the "Three year rule". Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll to grant this waiver and seconded by Chief Mello. After a roll call vote, 4-0, motion carries.

Chief Silva stated for the record that the Academy would further require that, at a minimum,

Det. Branch receive certification and /or training in the following:

FIREARMS QUALIFICATION(S)

CPR/AED

CRIMINAL LAW UPDATE/DV-SA (TO COVER CHANGES IN THE LAW DURING BREAK IN SERVICE)

**RI TRAFFIC LAW UPDATE** 

Also, we recommend (do not require) that Det. Branch be certified in SFST and

Breathalyzer.

Documentation of the above training must be sent to the Police Academy and all

training must be completed within 90 days of this date.

Lisa Holley asked if Detective Branch could do the Traffic Law

Update while in the process of his FTO. Chief Coyle and Chief Silva agreed he could. Chief Pesare asked if he can be a sworn officer now, before completion of the above requirements. Chief Silva stated yes, he can; however, the training must be completed in 90 days from today's date and documentation must be sent to the Academy upon completion. This will be considered on the job training. Captain Ricciarelli told Chief Coyle that he is welcome to any of our new curriculum lesson plans in any of these areas.

## **III. Adjournment:**

Mr. Driscoll made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chief Mello seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

**Donna M. Lavallee, Administrative Assistant**